

HVAC System Upgrades to Improve Indoor Air Quality

As a result of the current pandemic, public entities throughout New Jersey are beginning to focus on improving the design and operation of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems in their existing facilities. Facility managers have realized the important role that HVAC systems have in maintaining a healthy and comfortable indoor environment. As they navigate through these uncertain times and seek to keep their buildings safely occupied, facility managers must focus on improving indoor air quality (IAQ) while at the same time maintaining a comfortable indoor environment, especially in facilities that are occupied by the public.

Remington & Vernick Engineers (RVE) is actively monitoring the guidelines provided by Federal and State Agencies on the opening and operation of public facilities during the current pandemic. Our design professionals have been working closely with our clients to help them understand these new guidelines. We will also offer our recommendations to implement cost-effective strategies to improve indoor air quality based on these guidelines.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defer to the American Society for Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) Guidelines for the design and operation of new and existing



HVAC Systems during the pandemic. ASHRAE recently published several documents that provide guidelines to improve IAQ and operate HVAC systems safely and efficiently. These documents describe various strategies such as improving filtration efficiency, establishing optimal temperature/relative humidity setpoints, and modifying HVAC equipment operational sequences. ASHRAE also recommends various emergent air cleaning and sanitizing technologies such as catalytic air cleaners and bipolar ionization systems. RVE has successfully designed these types of technologies for various applications throughout the state.

RVE is prepared to assist your facility management personnel to develop a plan to improve your existing HVAC system in accordance with the latest industry standards. RVE shares in your desire to provide safe and healthy facilities throughout our local communities.

RVE regularly monitors several agencies and organizations to obtain the latest guidance for indoor air quality and HVAC system design. The websites to several of these agencies are linked below:

- [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- [The American Society for Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers](#)
- [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#)

For more information, contact:

[Christopher Saponaro, PE, PP](#)

Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing Group Manager

Office: 856-795-9595 ext. 1011 Cell: 609-680-5836

We understand the evolving nature of this information and can help guide you through this process to make informed decisions for your facilities.